

Family,
Please find above a picture of my new sofa.
Love,
How

Just joking. Please find above a picture of my den with family photos. I did the best I can to label for your reference. Pat suggested that I highlight some of stories and history I have for the family. Some I can document, and some would need verification.

Howard Dimond (SR) came from a well-known wealthy Newark family. Phyllis Kleinhaus Rice/Dimond came from a wealthy, well-known Jersey City family.

## **Howard SR**

1. Howard's maternal grandfather, Emanuel Heyman fought in the Bosnian War, came to the United State in the 1882 and was a banker land baron real estate developer.

2. He built the Oheb Shalom synagogue in Newark, NJ. I have the trowel.



- 3. I think Emanuel Heyman may have had several wives? One was an opera singer.Or it was Abe Dimond.
- 4. Abe Dimond Howard Dimond Sr paternal grandfather was a philanthropist and founder of the current Mountain Ridge Country Club.

CLUB HISTORY Mountain Ridge Country Club, located in West Caldwell, New Jersey, was officially formed on April 17, 1912, when 25 charter members filed a Document of Incorporation with the State of New Jersey. In 2012 the club celebrated its 100th anniversary.

The original Mountain Ridge golf course was located in West Orange, on a 176-acre plot. Because so few of the original members knew how to play golf when the club was created, the official opening was celebrated with a softball game. The initial nine-hole course was laid out by David Hunter, golf professional at the nearby Essex County Country Club, and opened for play in 1913. Thereafter, A.W. Tillinghast created a new course on the site during the winter of 1916-17. Tillinghast's work at Mountain Ridge caught the eye of the leaders at Essex County, and his efforts there resulted in him obtaining commissions to design Baltusrol, Winged Foot, Baltimore (Five Farms), and other classic courses.

Despite the Tillinghast pedigree, the golf course was troubled. The site was extremely hilly, and did not lend itself to good design. In 1926, Mountain Ridge retained Seth Raynor and George Banks to advise the club on modifications to the layout. Raynor and Banks reported that no amount of money could build a satisfactory course at that location. For a second opinion, the club turned to Walter Travis, a three-time U.S. Amateur champion and the first US citizen to win the British Amateur, paying him \$250 to visit and provide his views. Travis confirmed what Raynor and Banks had said, and soon thereafter Mountain Ridge began looking to sell its course in the hopes of reestablishing itself at a different location.

Club president A.J. Dimond, a well known philanthropist and the head of a major steel specialty company that provided cranes essential to the building of the Panama Canal, spearheaded the effort to find a buyer for the course. With debt piling up and no purchaser in sight for a golf course deemed unsatisfactory and with an inadequate clubhouse, salvation came from an unlikely source: the Public Service Corporation of New Jersey. The utility wanted to use a portion of the land for its power distribution facilities and it

ultimately purchased the property in 1928 for \$618,625. The transaction allowed Mountain Ridge to keep using the course until a new site could be found. Were it not for the providential offer from Public Service, the club could well have sunk under the weight of its debts and the impending Great Depression.

After an exhaustive search, the Mountain Ridge Board of Governors settled on a 282-acre parcel in West Caldwell, New Jersey for its new site and purchased the property for \$285,000 in 1929. The club hired prominent golf course architect Donald Ross to design a course on land that swept downward from a natural clubhouse spot, paying him \$2,500 plus the cost of supervising construction, which came to an additional \$14,000.

Making a number of visits to the site, Ross created two loops of nine holes. Ross closed each loop with a long hole, the last of each nine rising dramatically back to the clubhouse. The two nines have been reversed from their original order, but each retains its character and flow.

While the fairways are generously proportioned and the greens will generally accept a running shot into them, the course is deceptively difficult. The greens themselves have subtle tilts and distinct ridges, always affected by the downhill incline to the west. The green surrounds create delicate challenges for any approach that has missed the target, and a recent restoration has brought many of Ross's characteristic run-off areas back to their original closelymown state.

The golf course has always been very highly regarded, and was considered a difficult test when it opened in 1931. Little has changed in the 80 years since. Often described as one of the NYC Metropolitan Area's "hidden gems", Mountain Ridge has hosted many championships of the New Jersey State Golf Association and Metropolitan Golf Association, including four New Jersey PGA championships, three Metropolitan Opens, Amateur Championships of both the NJSGA and MGA, and most recently the MGA's Ike Championship in 2007 and the New Jersey PGA Championship in

2017. In 2012, Mountain Ridge hosted its first USGA event, the USGA Senior Amateur Championship. The Met Open will be returning in 2020.

The golf course has had a number of honors and high rankings bestowed upon it by Golf Digest, Met Golfer, Links Magazine and a number of other publications. Links has included Mountain Ridge among its list of "Best Club Experiences in the Met Area", noting, "The Ross design features some of the finest- and quickest- greens in the state." In 2012, the golf course was awarded Golf Magazine's "Renovation of the Year".

The striking fieldstone clubhouse was designed by architect Clifford C. Wendehack, who built similarly-styled centerpieces for Winged Foot, Ridgewood and Bethpage, among others. His 1929 book, "Golf and Country Clubs: A Survey of Requirements of Planning, Construction, and Equipment of the Modern Clubhouse," was the first scholarly examination of clubhouse architecture as a distinct discipline.

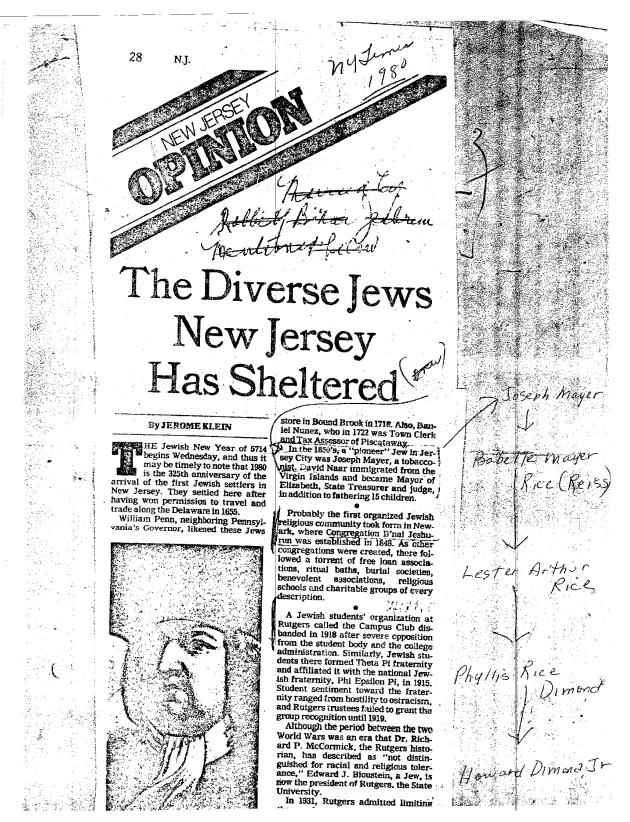
Mountain Ridge has had many prominent members throughout its 100 year history. Among its founders were Louis Bamberger, whose Newark department store, Bamberger's, was among the largest in the Unites States, and Felix Fuld, Bamberger's brother-in-law who was the first Parks Commissioner of New Jersey. The prominent membership has also included Joseph Weintraub, former Chief Justice of the New Jersey Supreme Court, U.S. Senator Frank Lautenberg, and A.J. Dimond (as above), among others.

There are few markers dedicated to individuals at Mountain Ridge. A sundial has stood at the circular entrance to the clubhouse since its opening in 1931; it honors Fuld, who died shortly before the club's acquisition of the West Caldwell property. A plaque in the entry hall honors Dimond for his efforts on behalf of the club and the community. And a small garden and rock near the golf pro shop commemorates Terry Hadash, beloved club general manager who died in 1997.

- 5. In the den closet at 684 Shadowlawn Dr there was a shoe box with minibottles of Cuban liquor and cigars. I think, Israel Dimond was in the importing business of tabacco and liquor from Cuba. Prohibition and the great depression would have put him out of business. Perhaps that is why he committed suicide. Millie and Dad lived in a hotel, Dad went to Newark Academy and then Penn following Richie Cohen, his uncle. Richie Cohen (husband of Leonora Heyman Cohen, Millie's sister went to Newark Academy and then Penn Law.
- 6. Richie Cohen bought real estate in the Great Depression and then subdivided. He had his own seat on the New York Stock Exchange and sold it to Shearson Lehman.
- 7. Israel's estate went unmanaged. There was enough money to put Howard Sr through Newark Academy, Penn-undergrad and Dental. There was enough money to support Millie with subsidies from Howard Sr to Millie at the end of her life. She lived in an apartment building in East Orange owned by Richie Cohen.
- 8. The very last of the estate was a building with Millie a part owner sold to Rutgers in Newark for very little money.
- 9. I take it, there was nothing left of the estate and Dad started over. Howard Sr. spent four years in the Second World War. He worked for Ralph Waldron, president of the American Association of Orthodontists, then opened his own practice. Loans for professionals were easy at that time. Dad built a bungalow office in New Brunswick, which he called the "edifice to his conceit." As went Newark, so did real estate in New Brunswick. Dad opened a satellite office in East Brunswick. When I joined Dad he sold the building in New Brunswick, we opened the Edison office. I designed the Edison office and did the practice building in Edison.
- 10. When Pat was 3 and I 5, we moved to 684 Shadowlawn Dr. Mom and Dad bought the house with a 4% mortgage which they proudly celebrated when they paid it off early. However, right after we moved in, Mom and Dad threw a party for Unc, Howard Rice, for his appointment as Dean at LIU School of Business. Dad got hepatitis, was out of work, and we had just moved into the new house. At the party for Unc, Mom was asked where was all the furniture? Mom said, "at Bloomingdales." The word spread that to make room for this huge party, the Dimonds put their furniture in storage at Bloomingdales. The truth had it, Dad just bought a house, was recovering from hepatitis, was without income and we had no furniture.

## **Phyllis Kleinhaus Rice/Dimond**

- 1. Alexander Reiss came to the United states from Germany as a teenager and went into the Civil War for the north. His discharge is hanging in my New York City apartment. He was bought out of the Civil War and went back. We are not sure if we have the first or second discharge.
- 2. Joseph Mayer was in the United States before 1850 and his daughter Babette married Alexander Rice.



3. The Kleinhaus family owned the largest department store in Jersey City founded in the 1880s.

## DEPARTMENT STORE BUYS IN JERSEY CITY; Kleinhaus, Inc., to Erect TenStory Building in JournalSquare Area.

Aug. 3, 1929

Credit...The New York Times Archives

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A ten-story department store and office building is planned for the Standfast Club plot on Bacot Place, Magnolia Avenue and Hudson Boulevard, in the Journal Square section of Jersey City, according to Samuel Kleinhaus, president of Kleinhaus, ... VIEW FULL ARTICLE IN TIMESMACHINE »

- 4. In NYC I have a picture hanging of a formal dinner celebrating the 42 years anniversary of Kleinhaus Department Store. Sam Kleinhaus is sitting with Boss Mayor Hague. In Florida I have a museum restored/deacidified poster for the 42<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of the store. When I was a child, Ro brought me to Jersey City to see the Kleinhaus Department Store engraving in the sidewalk where the building used to stand. It was sold, I believe to the American Tobacco Company.
- 5. Mom and Dad were married by Rabbi Berman. Rabbi Berman's wife was an opera singer. Their son, Lenny was in my class at Newark Academy. The Kleinhaus family had a reserved pew at synagogue in Jersey City.
- 6. The Kleinhaus family had a town house in Jersey City where different generations lived on different floors. I believe Sara was infirmed with a stroke on one floor. Somewhere in my papers there is a newspaper article showing the front door, the town house is/was on the Jersey City tour.
- 7. Don't know if Unc was a Ritchie Boy. As the story goes Unc had asthma and emphysema so he could not serve in the military. He

worked for the Pentagon and was recruited for intelligence behind the German lines The Americans kidnapped a German soldier, parachuted Unc to replace the German. Unc's job was to do inventory of the Germans in preparation for the Battle of Normandy? His French connection was Madame Latzarus. Although I dated Madame Latzarus's daughter, I never discussed her role or Unc's role. Madame Latzarus was an editor for Marie Claire. Babbette was a producer of national nightly news in France. I never heard Unc speak a word of German. Unc had a barrel chest and visible blue marks on his chest. He said it was shrapnel. It could have been his emphysema. Nothing was in Unc's obituary according to Jim because Unc felt ill-prepared for his role and never forgave the United States. Who knows? They never mentioned the Ritchie Boys but it certainly could be. I do know Unc substitute taught at Columbia high school, and he taught various languages.